Applicant:

Wuest et al.

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Notice of Allow.

No.:

Title:

Due Date:

October 29, 2002

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THERMALLY TREATING FLOUR FOR

HYGIENIC PURPOSES

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV077893945US

Date of Deposit: September 12, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Box Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-7 and add new claims 8-15 as follows:

8.(new) A device for a thermal treatment of flour, especially feed meal or similar bulk goods, for hygienic purposes, said device having a heatable mixer, drying and cooling equipment, filters and discharge equipment, characterized in that

- the heatable mixer is a batch mixer (4) which is connected to a dryer/cooler (8) by means of a lock-like valve system (3), and
- the dryer/cooler (8) is connected by another valve system (11) to a second batch mixer (12) which has devices for adding the additives.